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LB 759

3 percent of the people in this state pay 22 percent of the property taxes, and that's not counting the property taxes they pay on their homes. Farmers do live in houses too, you know. So with that, I would just like to reiterate my opposition to this amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Beutler, on the Stuthman amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Aguilar, I must say I sympathize with your remarks and I don't know totally how to respond, but incidentally I favor taxing attorneys among others, and eventually we will find a way to logically and fairly do that. But I think, again, it's...the frustration that Senator Aguilar expresses, I'm not sure it can ever be satisfied in this legislative process. That is, you can't do everything at once. It is impossible in a situation where we have so few resources to work at a problem, and there are such massive resources against you. I mean, if you just go to the little things like doing a little research to get a little information, you know, a major project for us. In the lobby, they hire high-paid lawyers to go out and do it, no problem, do it quickly. So this is like any other war--it's one battle at a time. And, of course, wherever you're doing the battle they say it's unfair for you to be fighting us because there's some other battles you have to win, so go out and fight all the battles at once. You ever heard of a war that was won by fighting all the battles at once? No. When you have limited resources you have to focus, you have to take things one at a time. You hope that the end result of your system over time becomes fairer and fairer and fairer, and I think it has from my experience in this Legislature over time. Slowly but surely we make things fairer. We snuff out the false arguments and we get to the real arguments. But secondly, I just wanted to ask you to think about the fact that this is a \$56 million chunk. This is huge. You cannot take this much money out and not replace it and not damage the university and K-12 education. Those of us on the Appropriations Committee know that you can't take \$56 million out without doing that kind of damage. And maybe that's what you want to do, but if that is not what you want to do then think seriously about not adopting this amendment, or I would be most interested, if those who are